

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

US EMBASSY, ACCRA

May 16, 2011

ANNOUNCEMENT # HR11-011

NOTE: All applicants who are not the Family Members of USG employees officially assigned to post and under Chief of Mission Authority must have the required work and/or residency permits to be eligible for consideration.

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates

POSITION: **PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST (LABORATORY ADVISOR), FSN-12**

POSITION NO: A11009

OPENING DATE: May 16, 2011

CLOSING DATE: June 01, 2011

WORK HOURS: Full-time; 40 hours/week

SALARY: Not-Ordinarily Resident: (Position Grade: FP-03 to be confirmed by Washington)

*Ordinarily Resident: GH¢32,928 p.a. (Starting salary)
(Position Grade: FSN-12)

LENGTH OF HIRE: Indefinite

NOTE: ALL APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT GHANAIAN CITIZENS WILL BE EXPECTED TO RESIDE IN GHANA AND MUST BE ABLE TO QUALIFY FOR A GHANAIAN WORK PERMIT. NO RELOCATION EXPENSES ARE PROVIDED TO THE JOB LOCATION: ACCRA, GHANA. IF TRANSPORTATION TO ACCRA IS REQUIRED, IT WILL BE THE EMPLOYEE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

The U.S. Embassy in Accra, Ghana is seeking an individual for the position of **PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST (LABORATORY ADVISOR)** with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) office.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

Under the supervision of the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC) Ghana Director, successful candidate will serve as a senior scientific and technical advisor to CDC and other US government agencies, Ghana Ministry of Health and its divisions, implementation partners and non-

governmental organizations (NGOs) in the planning and strengthening of laboratory programs and activities in Ghana.

Responsibilities include program development, monitoring, reporting and close collaboration with partners to ensure that all program activities in laboratories are carried out in accordance with objectives and internationally recognized best practices; partners include other U.S. government agencies, host government ministries including military hospitals, international organizations (IO) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) involved in the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS and other diseases in Ghana.

The successful candidate will also serve as principal coordinator for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supported laboratory systems and services within Ghana and is responsible for planning and implementation of capacity building of all laboratories dealing with surveillance and diagnostics for HIV/AIDS and HIV-related risk behaviors, STI (sexually transmitted infections), AI (avian influenza), TB (tuberculosis), malaria and other opportunistic infections (IOs) to ensure consistency of results.

Generally, s/he reviews individual laboratory procedures, weighing against accepted protocols and will assist in developing programs to ensure consistency; participate in developing the country operational plan and oversight of activities related to diagnosis and analysis of HIV/AIDS, STI, TB, malaria emerging diseases data in laboratories.

Serves as the project officer and main point of contact for CDC and Ghana laboratory program cooperative agreements and contracts; represents CDC at technical, policy and strategic planning meetings with collaborators and donor agencies and ensures proper budgeting of laboratory activities supported by CDC cooperative agreements.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

NOTE: All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item.

1. Masters level degree or Ghanaian equivalent in medicine, biology, microbiology or chemistry is required.
2. Minimum of seven years of work in public health laboratory testing procedures and systems is required. An additional two years of managerial experience is required.
3. Level IV English fluency required in speaking, reading and writing (Fluent. High degree of proficiency in both written and spoken language, including the ability to translate. On occasions the job holder may need to act as an interpreter). Language proficiency will be tested.
4. Comprehensive knowledge and experience in advanced laboratory techniques, including comprehensive knowledge of procedures for laboratory diagnostics and associated technologies, thorough public health knowledge of current communicable diseases and a comprehensive knowledge of Ghana national laboratory facilities, health care system and structures, including familiarity with Ministry Of Health (MOH) policies, program priorities and regulations. Good working knowledge of U.S. government public health programs, strategies, methods, processes and techniques used to plan, develop, implement and evaluate results are required. Good working knowledge of team management

techniques to plan, organize and direct multi-disciplinary project teams and activities and overall administrative requirements, budgeting and fiscal management in support of contracts/cooperative agreements/grants/ purchase requisitions.

5. The successful candidate will be expected to exercise ingenuity and tact in applying guidelines to unique and different settings, as the work is highly complex; must be able to lead project teams and workgroups and to develop effective working relationships with national and international partners; must be an intermediate level user of word processing, spreadsheets and databases; and must have an advanced knowledge of statistics and data analysis.
6. Good written and oral communication skills; excellent interviewing skills; leadership, influencing and persuasion skills; formal presentation and public speaking are required.

SELECTION PROCESS

When equally qualified, U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Members (AEFMs) and U.S. Veterans will be given preference. Therefore, it is essential that the candidate addresses the required qualifications above in the application.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, and residency status in determining successful candidacy.
2. Current employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply.
3. Current Ordinarily Resident employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report are not eligible to apply.
4. Currently employed US Citizen EFM's who hold FMA appointment are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment.
5. Currently employed NORs hired under a Personal Services Agreement (PSA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment, unless currently hired into a position with a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.

TO APPLY

Interested candidates for this position must submit the following for consideration of the application:

1. Universal Application for Employment (UAE) as a Locally Employed Staff or Family Member (DS-174): **or**

2. A combination of both: i.e. Section 1-24 of the UAE along with a listing of the applicant's work experience attached as a separate sheet; **or**

3. A current resume or curriculum vitae that provides the same information found on the UAE (*see section 3A below for more information*): **plus**

4. Candidates who claim U.S. Veterans preference must provide a copy of their Form DD-214 with their application. Candidates who claim conditional US Veteran preference must submit documentation confirming eligibility for a conditional preference in hiring with their application.

5. Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above.

6. A telephone number, post office box and/or e-mail address where we can contact you to schedule an interview.

3A. If an applicant is submitting a resume or curriculum vitae, s/he must provide the following information equal to what is found on the UAE.

Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application.

- A. Position Title
- B. Position Grade
- C. Vacancy Announcement Number (if known)
- D. Dates Available for Work
- E. First, Middle, & Last Names as well as any other names used
- F. Date and Place of Birth
- G. Current Address, Day, Evening, and Cell phone numbers
- H. U.S. Citizenship Status (Yes or No) & status of permanent U.S. Resident (Yes or No; if yes, provide number)
- I. U.S. Social Security Number and/or Identification Number
- J. Eligibility to work in the country (Yes or No)
- K. Special Accommodations the Mission needs to provide
- L. If applying for position that includes driving a U.S. Government vehicle, Driver's License Class / Type
- M. Days available to work
- N. List any relatives or members of your household that work for the U.S. Government (include their Name, Relationship, & Agency, Position, Location)
- O. U.S. Eligible Family Member and Veterans Hiring Preference
- P. Education
- Q. License, Skills, Training, Membership, & Recognition
- R. Language Skills
- S. Work Experience
- T. References

NOTE:

1. All applications must have the **Position Number** and **Position Title** identified.
2. All “Hard Copy”/printed applications must be submitted to the Mail Room at the Chancery. Hard Copy Applications submitted through any other office will not be accepted. You may apply on-line using the AccraHRO@state.gov email address. This is the preferred means of applying for a position with the American Embassy. Please go to our website for additional information, including current openings and tips on applying with the American Embassy in Accra. <http://ghana.usembassy.gov/jobopportunities.html>
3. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE FOR AN OPEN/ADVERTIZED POSITION. APPLICATIONS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED FOR A JOB WILL NOT BE HELD/CONSIDERED FOR FUTURE JOBS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, YOU MUST RE-APPLY.**

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

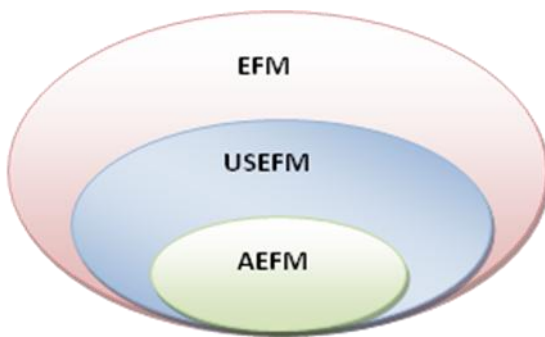
Human Resources Office
Through the Mailroom, Chancery
American Embassy, Accra
P.O. Box GP 194
Cantonments – Accra

POINT OF CONTACT:

Telephone: 0302-741000
Fax: 0302-741389
E-mail: AccraHRO@state.gov

To get a copy of this vacancy announcement, please log on to our website at:
http://ghana.usembassy.gov/job_opportunities.html

DEFINITIONS



This diagram demonstrates how an Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM) is also a US-citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM) as well as an Eligible Family Member (EFM).

1. **Eligible Family Member (EFM):** An individual related to a US Government employee in one of the following ways:

- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#));
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchildren and adopted children and those under legal guardianship of the employee or the spouse when such children are expected to be under such legal guardianship until they reach 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian;
- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of the employee or of the spouse, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support;
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, or of the spouse, when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support.

2. **US Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM):** For purposes of receiving a preference in hiring for a qualified position, an EFM who meets the following criteria:

- US Citizen; and,
- EFM (see above) at least 18 years old; and,
- Listed on the travel orders of a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member assigned to or stationed abroad with a USG agency that is under COM authority, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and either:
 1. Resides at the sponsoring employee's or uniformed service member's post of assignment abroad or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
 2. Resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2.

3. **Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM):** EFM (see above) eligible for a Family Member Appointment for purposes of Mission employment:

- Is a U.S. citizen; and
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in [3 FAM 1610](#)) or a child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; and
- **Is** listed on the travel orders **or approved Form [OF-126, Foreign Service Residence and Dependency Report](#)**, of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed **service** member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad at a U.S. mission, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (**AIT**), and who is under chief of mission authority; and
- **Is** residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, office of the American Institute in Taiwan.
- Does not receive a Foreign Service or Civil Service annuity

4. **Member of Household (MOH)**: An individual who accompanies a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed at a U.S. Foreign Service post or establishment abroad, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan. An MOH is:

- Not an EFM; and,
- Not on the travel orders of the sponsoring employee; and,
- Has been officially declared by the sponsoring USG employee to the COM as part of his/her household.

A MOH is under COM authority and may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative or adult child who falls outside the Department's current legal and statutory definition of family member. A MOH does not have to be a US Citizen.

4. **Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR)** – An individual who:

- Is not a citizen of the host country; and,
- Does not ordinarily reside (*OR*, see below) in the host country; and,
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws; and,
- Has a US Social Security Number (SSN).

NOR employees are compensated under a GS or FS salary schedule, not under the LCP.

5. **Ordinarily Resident (OR)** – A Foreign National or US citizen who:

- Is locally resident; and,
- Has legal, permanent resident status within the host country; and,
- Is subject to host country employment and tax laws.

EFMs without US Social Security Numbers are also OR. All OR employees, including US citizens, are compensated in accordance with the Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: June 01, 2011

The US Mission in Accra, Ghana provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs.

The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.